I claim:

1. A handheld mobile wireless monitoring apparatus comprising:

a radio receiver for monitoring a wireless signal across at least one wireless channel;

a user interface for enabling a user to observe and select a predetermined parameter of the wireless signal to be evaluated;

a processing circuit for evaluating the wireless signal to observe the predetermined parameter;

an enclosure, dimensioned to be handheld by the user, for retaining the radio receiver, the processing circuit and the user interface.

2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the radio receiver is a wireless PC card for monitoring wireless signals operating under the IEEE 802.11 protocols.

3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the processing circuit comprises a microprocessor.

4. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the user interface comprises an LCD display for displaying data about the at least one property of the wireless signal.

5. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the user interface comprises a keypad for selecting the predetermined parameter of the wireless signal to be observed.

6. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the predetermined parameter of the wireless signal to be evaluated is selected from at least one of: unit identification, SSID, WEP status, data rate and transmission power strength.

7. A method of mobile monitoring comprising:

monitoring a wireless signal across at least one wireless channel;

selecting a predetermined parameter of the wireless signal to be evaluated;

evaluating the wireless signal to observe the predetermined parameter;

observing the evaluated predetermined parameter of the wireless signal.

8. The method of claim 7 wherein the steps of monitoring, selecting, evaluating and observing are performed at a first predetermined location, and wherein the method further comprises performing the steps of monitoring, selecting, evaluating and observing at least a second predetermined location, so as to observe the predetermined parameter over a predetermined region comprised of the respective predetermined locations.

9. The method of claim 7 wherein the monitored wireless signals operate under the IEEE 802.11 protocols.

10. The method of claim 7 wherein the predetermined parameter of the wireless signal to be evaluated is selected from at least one of: unit identification, SSID, WEP status, data rate, and transmission power strength.

11. The method of claim 7 wherein the predetermined parameter of trhe wireless signal to be evaluated is selected from at least one of: access point identification, client identification, quick statistics, signal strength, WLAN statistics, host and associations tabulations, packets information, security, signal direction, and device options